

**REMARKS**

In the Final Office Action (hereinafter, "Office Action") mailed April 16, 2007, the Examiner indicated that claims 26-34 are allowed. In addition, the Examiner set forth an election of species as recited in previously presented claims 35-44, and withdrew claims 35-44 due to "construct[ive] elect[ion] by original prosecution on the merits." Office Action, p. 2. Applicants hereby acknowledge the election of species requirement, and withdrawal of claims 35-44 by the Examiner.

By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 26-34 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Claims 26-34 remain pending. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 26-34 in condition for allowance.

**II. Conclusion**

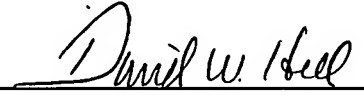
Applicants respectfully note that the Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 16, 2007

By:   
David W. Hill  
Reg. No. 28,220